

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017796

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL,CH

SUBJECT: SINO-US CULTURAL EXCHANGES

1. NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON US-CHINA RELATIONS (NC) HAS JUST INFORMED DEPARTMENT OF ITS GREAT CONCERN WITH SLOWNESS OF CHINESE IN PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT THREE FORTHCOMING DELEGATIONS. THESE THREE ARE CHINESE PERFORMING ARTS TROUPE VISIT TO US, AND CURRENT WORLD AFFAIRS AND US MAYORS DELEGATIONS PREPARING TO VISIT PRC.

2. NC URGENTLY NEEDS CONFIRMATION OF TRAVEL DATES FOR CHINESE PERFORMING ARTS TROUPE. THEATER BOOKINGS HAVE BEEN MADE IN FIVE US CITIES (LOS ANGELES, MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, CHICAGO, WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK), BEGINNING WITH LOS ANGELES. NC HAS SUGGESTED TO PRCLO ARRIVAL DATE OF MARCH 30 BUT GROUP COULD ARRIVE ONE DAY LATER IF PREPARED TO HOLD DRESS REHEARSAL ON NEXT DAY. GROUP CANNOT ARRIVE LATER THAN MARCH 31, HOWEVER, IF IT INTENDS TO PERFORM IN LOS ANGELES ON DATES THEATER HAS BEEN BOOKED. NC FEELS THAT IF GROUP CANNOT ARRIVE IN TIME TO MEET US SCHEDULE IT HAS SET UP, THEN THE TOUR WILL HAVE TO BE
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POSTPONED OR CANCELLED. NC ALSO URGENTLY NEEDS INFORMATION

ON COMPOSITION OF TROUPE AND PROGRAM IT INTENDS TO OFFER
FOR ADVANCE PUBLICITY AND TO PREPARE PROGRAMS.

3. NC ALSO NEEDS INFORMATION ON CHINESE PLANS TO
RECEIVE WORLD AFFAIRS AND MAYORS DELEGATIONS IN PRC.
PRCLO HAS BEEN GIVEN AND TRANSMITTED TO PEKING ADVANCE
INFORMATION ON THESE GROUPS, BUT HAS NOT RESPONDED
DESPITE SEVERAL INQUIRIES BY NC. NC MUST HAVE SOME
INDICATION WHETHER ITS PROPOSALS ARE ACCEPTABLE IN
ORDER TO CONTINUE ORGANIZATION OF THESE TWO DELEGATIONS.

4. AMBASSADOR BUSH IS CALLING ON CU ON JANUARY 27 AND WE
WILL INFORM HIM OF NC'S CONCERN ABOUT THESE EXCHANGES.
NC HAS ASKED DEPARTMENT TO PASS THEIR CONCERN TO USLO
WITH REQUEST USLO DECIDE WHETHER AND HOW TO JOG
CHINESE FOR THIS INFORMATION. WE LEAVE THIS TO USLO
DISCRETION. INGERSOLL

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